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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor Guido MENNICKEN et al
Patent App. Not known (US Nat'l phase of
 PCT/DE2003/003353)
Filed Concurrently herewith
For METHOD FOR ENCODING ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND A
 DEVICE AND METHOD FOR EVALUATING THE ENCODED
 INFORMATION
Art Unit Not known
Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-identified application,
please amend as follows:

In the translation serving as Specification:

Page 1, before Paragraph 1 insert

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CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is the US national phase
of PCT application PCT/DE2003/003353 filed 9
October 2003 with a claim to the priority of
German patent application 10252628.1 itself
filed 11 November 2002.
